

II. The second ingredient for surviving and sustaining after school and summer programs is diversified funding and strong school-family-community connections. Do you have them?
Rate Each Element from 10 to 1 (high to low):

_____ **PARENT CONTRIBUTIONS AND SUPPORT** (A rating of 10 should include all indicators)

- ✓ The activities and projects reflect what families want to enhance their children's opportunities and to enhance their own skills, and we have an easily accessible parent resource center.
- ✓ Parents and family members regularly contribute in a variety of ways (e.g., volunteering time, paying on a sliding fee schedule), and they bring in other community resources.

_____ **DIVERSIFIED FUNDING**

- ✓ We are entrepreneurial and position ourselves for new funding opportunities (e.g., Title I Supplemental Services, AmeriCorps) and seek funding from city and county governments.
- ✓ We are staffed to handle a mixture of local, state, federal, and private funding.
- ✓ The local school board, superintendent, town and county leaders, and United Way support our programs because we supply them and other key leaders with solid evaluation data.
- ✓ We are studying the potential of forming a 501-c3 nonprofit group and developing a fund raising plan.

_____ **"IN-KIND" RESOURCES ARE FULLY USED**

- ✓ We have the buy-in of key teachers and the principal and use the school's computer and language labs, library, and art and music rooms.
- ✓ We recruit, organize and train college and high school students as tutors as well as reach out to members of faith-based organizations and employers to secure mentors.
- ✓ Parks, recreation and the public libraries are working with us, and our activities are connected.

_____ **WIN-WIN PARTNERSHIPS**

- ✓ Local colleges and universities help middle and high school students experience the possibilities of going to college and even provide seminars in critical "gate opening courses" for college access (e.g., science, math, Advanced Placement courses, 2nd and 3rd languages).
- ✓ Local museums, public libraries, and cultural facilities offer projects at their sites and ours.
- ✓ Law enforcement and safe community programs are partners.
- ✓ Communities in Schools, Y's, 4-H, Junior Achievement, Boys and Girls Clubs, and Big Brother Big Sister are offering what they do best and work in partnership, including on transportation.

_____ **BUILDING SENIOR CITIZEN, LOCAL BUSINESS, AND PUBLIC SUPPORT**

- ✓ Retirees are both recruited as volunteers and provided programs as lifelong learners.
- ✓ We researched what local businesses would like to contribute and seek that support.
- ✓ We have a well organized public awareness campaign, including using the AfterSchool Alliance ads, and Lights-On. We sponsor visits of officials to our programs, create special events and press releases to highlight our successes, and we have an organized and active speakers' bureau.

_____ **Subtotal: What is your score on the second half of After School Survivor Test?**

_____ **BONUS:** Add 10 points if you and 10 of your local colleagues are lobbying regularly for more state and federal funding for after school and build alliances with other groups in these efforts.

_____ **TOTAL SCORE:** (Out of 120)

Do you think this is high enough to survive 5-10 years? What are you going to do about it? When? You can sustain your program!!

- Dr. Terry Peterson, Director of the Afterschool and Community Learning Network and Senior Fellow at the University of South Carolina and College of Charleston, prepared this for you.
- **Rate his test:** _____
- Please tell him about your survivor successes: FAX 843.576.6198.
Draft 3/24/03